

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for his continuing attention to this application and indication of allowed claims and allowable claims. In order to facilitate prosecution, Applicant has amended the rejected claims such that each of the rejected claims contains the limitations of claims 7 or 9, which have been indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form. This should not be taken as an agreement by Applicant of the Examiner's outstanding grounds for rejection and Applicant reserves the right to pursue rejected claims in a subsequent application.

Request for Interview

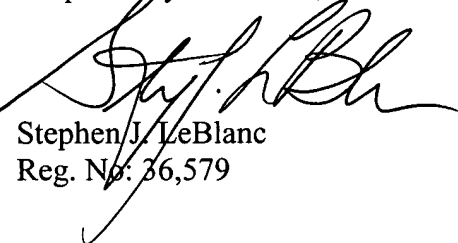
If for any reason the Examiner believes any of the pending claims are deemed not to be in condition for allowance after consideration of this Response, **a telephone interview with the Examiner is hereby requested.** Please telephone the undersigned at (510) 769-3508 to schedule an interview.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No: 36,579

Attachments:

- 1) A request for extension of time (2 months)
- 2) Atransmittal sheet;
- 3) A receipt indication postcard;